REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-19 and 21-37 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the allowable features of claim 4 have been incorporated into claims 1 and 33 and the allowable features of claim 20 have been incorporated into claim 17. Claims 4 and 20 have been cancelled. Also, the dependency of claims 5-7 and 21-23 have been corrected.

Entry of the Amendment is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the Amendment: (a) places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) does not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration; (c) does not add any additional claims; and (d) places the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Entry of the Amendment is thus respectfully requested.

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowability for claims 4-7 and 19-23. By this Amendment, the allowable features of claim 4 have been incorporated into claims 1 and 33 and the allowable features of claim 20 have been incorporated into claim 17.

The rejection of claims 1-3, 8-19 and 24-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Meyer et al., U.S. Publication No. 2002/0143871, in view of Rhodes et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,236,768, has been rendered moot by the amendments to claims 1, 17 and 23.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-3, 5-19 and 21-37 are earnestly solicited.

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Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: November 17, 2004

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